Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Has it not caused great inconvenience to the students having had to go to school without text-books?

Mr. I. N. Menon—There was some amount of inconvenience. There is a slight fault in the answer given. The school did not really re-open on the 17th because of some special holidays in connection with the memory of the demise of His Highness the late Maharaja. So they did not re-open actually on the 17th as these holidays intervened. Still there was some inconvenience felt.

Approving of text-books for schools.

122. Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether it is a fact that certain books were prescribed as text-books in schools by the Government subject to their revision by the authors or publishers;

(b) if so, whether the revised books were submitted for approval of, and approved by, the authorities concerned either before or after they were published?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—(a) No; the authors or publishers of five books were asked only to attend to the remarks noted against their books. The remarks were not such as to necessitate any revision.

(b) No answer is required in view of the answer to sub-division (a) above.

Enhancement of Anchal rates and Hundi Commissions.

123. Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) the reasons for enhancing the Anchal rates and Hundi commission from 1108;

(b) what is the excess income anticipated by the enhancement of the rates?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—(a) To increase the State revenue.

(b) About Rs. 5,000 a year.

Admission of Cochinite and non-Cochinite students in the Maharaja's College.

124. Mr. P. S. Kesavan Nambudiri.—Will the Government be pleased to give a list showing the number of:—

(a) applicants for admission to the Maharaja's College, Ernakulam, this year;

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(b) those who were refused admission ;
(c) non-Cochinites admitted ; and
(d) Cochinites who were refused admission ;
(2) Among those Cochinites who were refused admission, how many were ;
(a) girls ;
(b) members of the depressed or backward communities ?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—(a) 486.
(b) 269.
(c) 7.
(d) 193.
(2) (a) 31.
(b) Backward 26, Depressed nil.

Mr. P. S. Kesavan Nambudiri—May I know how many girls were admitted to the Maharaja's College this year?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—I want notice. It may take some time.

Mr. P. S. Kesavan Nambudiri.—Are the Government aware that it is somewhat difficult for girls to seek admission for further studies elsewhere?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—Even when there was accommodation for them they used to go to the Queen Mary's College and the Women's Christian College at Madras. It all depends upon the special circumstances of each lady student.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Was not accommodation given to them in the St. Teresa's Convent College?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—In some groups there was accommodation available, not in all groups.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Is it not a fact that all the Colleges do not admit girls?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—Yes. The St. Thomas College the Madras Christian College, etc., do not admit girls. But I know that the Presidency College does admit girls.

Mr. M. A. Chakko.—Does not the Queen Mary's College refuse admission to the Cochin State girls?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—I am not aware of any such rule.

Mr. M. A. Chakko.—Do they take in any girls now?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—Yes.

Mr. M. A. Chakko. - Any admissions this year?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—I think so. I don't know whether anybody asked for admission and was refused.

Mr. P. S. Kesavan Nambudiri.—Have the Government given preference to the applications from girls in the Maharaja's College this year?

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Mr. I N. Menon.—A certain proportion was fixed. They were to be admitted in proportion to the number of applications received.

The Karuvannur river diversion scheme.

125. Mr. Joseph Pettah.—Will the Government be pleased to place on the table.

(a) a statement of the successive stages in which the Karuvannur river diversion scheme has been proposed to be carried out ;

(b) what works have been undertaken in 1107 in furtherance of the above scheme ;

(c) do the Government intend to undertake any works in 1108 towards the same object, so as to minimise the disastrous floods in the Karuvannur region ?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—(a) The Member is referred to the statement of the sucecssive 4 stages of the works published in the Government Gazette of 4th Karkadagam 1105, Part I, pp. 931 and 932. (vide also statement appended). (*Appendix V*).

(b) With the extension of the Chirakkal thodu further west, the first stage of the proposed works has been completed.

(c) No decision has yet been arrived at as to the particular works to be done in 1108. The matter is, however, engaging the earnest attention of the Government.

Mr. Joseph Pettah.—(b) May I know whether this completion referred to was done in 1107?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—Yes.

Mr. Joseph Pettah—(c). May I know what necessity was there for any decision when the scheme was already laid down in successive stages?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—If the Hon'ble Member would read the scheme he would find that after every stage has been completed, the results of the work should be watched before the next stage is embarked upon. The first stage is completed. It was thought necessary that we should have an idea as to how we have solved the problem and the Government thought it advisable to have it scrutinised by another expert Engineer and he has come and his report has not been yet received.

Cutting down of avenue banyan trees on the Trichur-Kunnamkulam road that are in a dangerous condition.

126. Mr. Joseph Pettah.—(a) Are the Government aware that many of the avenue banyan trees along the Trichur-

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